

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI  
EASTERN DIVISION**

J. W., by and through CASSANDRA )  
WHITFIELD, as next friend, )

Plaintiff, )

v. )

No. 4:12-CV-1315-RWS

MICHAEL J. ASTRUE, )  
Commissioner of Social Security, )

Defendant. )

**MEMORANDUM AND ORDER**

This matter is before the Court upon its own motion. The complaint contains the full name of a minor child. Local Rule 5-2.17(A)(2) requires that the names of minor children be redacted from any filing with the Court. “Only the initials of minor children may be listed.” Id. As a result, the Court will direct the Clerk to place the complaint under seal. Additionally, plaintiff shall, no later than August 17, 2012, file an amended complaint that complies with Local Rule 5-2.17(A).

Additionally, civil actions by minors may be commenced and prosecuted only by a duly appointed guardian of such minor or, if there is no such guardian, by a next friend appointed by the court in such civil action. Fed.R.Civ.P. 17. Plaintiff has not provided the Court with documents showing that he has a court-appointed guardian, nor filed a petition for appointment of next friend in this matter. Thus, a next friend

must be appointed before further proceedings may occur. Accordingly, the Court will order plaintiff to file a petition for appointment of next friend. Failure to file such petition will result in this action being dismissed without prejudice.

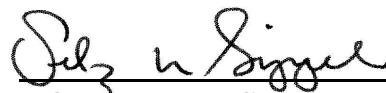
Accordingly,

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Clerk shall place the complaint under seal.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that plaintiff shall, no later than August 17, 2012, file an amended complaint that complies with Local Rule 5-2.17(A).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that plaintiff shall, no later than August 17, 2012, file a motion for appointment of next friend for the purpose of commencing and prosecuting this action. Failure to file such a motion shall result in this action being dismissed without prejudice.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2012.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rodney W. Sippel", is written over a horizontal line.

RODNEY W. SIPPEL  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE